AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A tool holder (1; 21) intended to receive a flexibly deformable tool (12; 26), comprising an elongate body (2; 22) with a channel intended to receive the end of the tool (12; 26), the channel having a cylindrical part (3; 32) parallel to the body (2; 22) and a part (4; 27) opening to the outside of the body (2; 22), widening toward the outside of the body (2; 22) and guiding the tool (12; 26) toward the cylindrical part (3; 32) when it is being fitted in the tool holder (1; 21), and means (5, 13; 28, 29) which keep the tool (12; 26) in position and are arranged in such a way that the axis of the tool (12; 26) in the operating phase is not parallel to the axis of the body (2; 22), the part (4; 27) which opens to the outside of the body (2; 22) permitting introduction of the tool (12; 26) into the body (2; 22) by a displacement of the tool (12; 26) along the axis of the cylindrical part (3; 32) of the channel, wherein the part (4; 27) opening to the outside of the body comprises a surface ~~whose generatices are~~ of which one of the generatrices being substantially parallel to the axis of the cylindrical part of the channel and which extends from the cylindrical part (3; 32) to outside of the body.

2. (Original) The tool holder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the part (4; 27) opening to the outside of the body has configurations allowing it to avoid contact with the tool during its stages of flexion and fixation and when said tool is in the operating position.

3. (Original) The tool holder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means (5, 13; 28, 29) for holding the tool (12; 26) in position comprise, on the body (2; 22), a threaded end (5; 28) onto which an internally threaded ring (13; 29) connected to the tool (12; 26) is screwed.

4. (Original) The tool holder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for holding the tool (12; 26) in position comprise, on the body, an end which cooperates with a ring connected to the tool (12; 26) in order to form a bayonet-type connection system.

5. (Original) The tool holder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for holding the tool (12; 26) in position comprise, on the body, clip means which cooperate with complementary clip means on a ring connected to the tool (12; 26).

6. (Original) The tool holder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for holding the tool (12; 26) in position comprise, on the body, shape-fit means which cooperate with complementary shape-fit means on a ring connected to the tool (12; 26).

7. (Original) The tool holder as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in the area of the cylindrical part of the channel (3; 32), it has means (25) for guiding the tool (26) in rotation.

8. (Original) A device comprising the tool holder (1; 21) as claimed in claim 1 and a flexibly deformable tool (12; 26) connected to a ring (13; 29).

9. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the tool (12; 26) is connected to the ring (29) by a pivot connection.

10. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the tool (12) is an injection needle.

11. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the tool holder (21) has means (23, 24, 25) for driving the tool (26) in rotation.